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(b) secondary schools, and
(c) colleges ?

A.—Information in respect of the years 1919–20 to 1921–22 will be found in the Reports on Public Instruction for those years already published. Particulars for 1922–23 will be found in the report which will be published shortly.

Muhammadan girls' schools.

354 Q.—Mr. K. Abdul Hye Sahib : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there are only two Muhammadan girls' schools to serve the needs of the large Muhammadan population of Madras, that both of them are situated in the southern part of the city, and that there are no up-to-date girls' schools corresponding to the above institutions in Georgetown, which is the northern and more important part of the city ?

A.—The answer is in the negative, as there are seven Muhammadan girls' schools in the city situated in Royapetta, Mylapore, Choolai, Perambore, Triplicane (2) and Georgetown.

Amount spent on Muhammadan education.

355 Q.—Mr. K. Abdul Hye Sahib : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in pre-Reform days a special sum of Rs. 30,000 was allotted for Muhammadan education in this Presidency under the orders of the Government of India out of the recurring grant sanctioned to the Local Government ; and

(b) if so, whether a like sum is now spent on Muhammadan education ?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) Yes. A larger sum is now being spent.

Mr. Abbas Ali Khan :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Education be prepared to spend a still larger sum, Sir ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" If the hon. the Finance Member is able to provide me funds for the expansion of education among the Muhammadan community, I shall be very glad to do so."

Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib :—" May I know, Sir, whether the larger sum that is now said to be spent is exclusive of the recurring grant made under the orders of the Government of India ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" Yes, the total expenditure is now much higher than what it was before."

The ' Lock Hospital Building ' for the use of the Muhammadan Training School at Bellary.

356 Q.—Mr. K. Abdul Hye Sahib : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have handed over permanently the ' Lock Hospital Building ' to the Provincial Government for the use of the Government Muhammadan Training School at Bellary ?

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A.—The building referred to was handed over to the Local Government on the usual condition of relinquishment if required for military purposes. It was at first used for a dispensary and on its transfer for the school referred to.

Government girls' school, Kumbakonam.

357 *Q.*—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some time ago there was a proposal to make over the Government girls' school at Kumbakonam to the local Town High School Committee;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the said Committee accepted the proposal;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that thereafter the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Southern Circle, under instructions from the Director of Public Instruction withdrawing the said offer, proposed to hand over the school to the local mission, and if so, to state the reasons therefor and lay the papers on the table;

(*d*) whether a similar offer was made to the local Municipal Council or other public bodies; and

(*e*) whether the Government have passed any and what orders on the subject of divesting themselves of management of this institution?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) In pursuance of the policy laid down by Government in consequence of the passing of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, that they should withdraw from the direct control of elementary schools, steps have been taken since 1921 and are still being taken to transfer elementary schools formerly under direct Government control to the control of local bodies (except in the Agency tracts).

The Municipal Council, Kumbakonam, was requested by the Director of Public Instruction in September 1922 to express its willingness to take over the management of the Government girls' school at that place. In February 1923 the Council reported that it was not in favour of taking over the management of the school. The Director of Public Instruction was consequently obliged to investigate if any other educational body working in Kumbakonam would be willing to take over the control of the school. Three educational bodies, viz., the Town High School Committee, the Theosophical Society and the Roman Catholic Mission, were asked by him if they would be prepared to assume control of the school and maintain it as an aided school. The two former societies would accept no financial responsibility, but the third, viz., the Roman Catholic Mission, was prepared to take over the school and maintain it as an aided elementary school receiving aid from the District Educational Council, Government making over only the use of the building and its equipment. At this time the public of Kumbakonam endeavoured to induce the Municipal Council to accept the management of the school. The Director therefore requested the Municipal Council to reconsider its decision. A copy of the Standing Committee's resolution agreeing to take